Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-02 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-01 SP-02

AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 IO-10 LAB-04

NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01

SS-15 H-02 INT-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 FEA-01 /097 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ISM:MJDUX:MBL APPROVED BY EB/ICD:JJINGERSOLL EUR/SE:MBHIRSHORN

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R 192222Z MAR 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: EMIN, TU

SUBJECT:USG INTEREST IN TURKISH CHROMITE ORE

REF: ANKARA 2044

- 1. AT RECENT MEETING OF UNCTAD COMMODITIES COMMITTEE (GENEVA FEB 10-21) TURKISH DELEGATE (ELGIN) STATED THAT GOT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN "INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS" IN UNCTAD FOR CHROME (AND MERCURY). IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE CONVERSATION USDEL QUERIED ELGIN ON REASONS FOR WANTING INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS AND SUGGESTED THAT IF TURKEY HAD PROBLEMS OF MARKETING CHROME IT SHOULD CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING SALES IN US. IT WAS AGREED THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR TURKISH EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH CHIEF OF EB/ISM.
- 2. PURPOSE OF USDEL SUGGESTION WAS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF DIVERSIFYING US SOURCES OF CHROME SUPPLY IN EVENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND IN SUPPORT OF REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT. REPEAL WOULD

HAVE EFFECT OF ENDING US IMPORTS OF RHODESIAN CHROMITE AND FERROCHROME, AND IS OPPOSED BY US STAINLESS STEEL MAKERS ON GROUNDS OF LACK OF ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATE SOURCES. USG WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BECOME PURCHASER BUT WOULD BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN PROMOTING TURKISH CHROMITE SALES IN US MARKET, WHICH COULD BECOME SUBSTANTIAL IF RHODESIAN SUPPLIES ARE CUT OFF THROUGH REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT.

- 3. WE HAVE RECEIVED A LETTER DATED FEB. 28 FROM ETIBANK ANKARA INFORMING US, WITH REFERENCE TO THE GENEVA DISCUSSION, THAT "WE HAVEN'T ANY CHROME ORE STOCKS REMAINING" AND SUGGESTING WE GET IN TOUCH WITH SALES AGENT IN NEW YORK.
- 4. IF TURKEY DOES NOT HAVE PROBLEM OF FINDING MARKETS FOR CHROME, AND CONSIDERING CURRENT ADVANTAGEOUS PRICES, WE ARE CURIOUS ABOUT REASON FOR SUGGESTING INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS IN UNCTAD. IF TURKEY DOES HAVE PROBLEMS OR TURKISH CHROMITE IS AVAILABLE, WE WOULD STILL BE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING GREATER TURKISH PARTICIPATION IN US MARKET. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, MINING INDUSTRY, CHROMIUM, BRYD AMENDMENT, MEETINGS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 19 MAR 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE062268

Document Number: 1975STATE062268 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: MJDUX:MBL Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750097-0136

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750335/aaaabfcn.tel

Line Count: 82

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Glassification: Limited Orfici Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 ANKARA 2044 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 30 JUN 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by greeneet>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SG INTEREST IN TURKISH CHROMITE ORE TAGS: EMIN, TU, US, UNCTAD

To: ANKARA

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006